Essential Commodities Act, Storage (Control) Order and other similar legislations against hoarders, blackmarketeers and anti-social elements.

Prosecutions launched against the offenders under the enforcement of bonded Labour (Abolition) Act

1109. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Centre have asked the State Governments to furnish information about the prosecution launched against the offenders under the Enforcement of Bonded Labour (Abolition) Act;

(b) if so, whether any State Government have since furnished detailed report in this regard; and

(c) what other measures the Union Government propose to take to effectively implement the Act in the country to get Bonded Labourers freed?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI BINDESHWARI DUBEY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Apart from urging the State Governments to conduct surveys for identification of bonded labour, the Central Government have also introduced a scheme for involvement of voluntary agencies in the task of identification and rehabilitation of bonded labour. In addition, whenever any complaint regarding bondage is brought to the notice of the Central Government, the same is sent to the State Government concerned for necessary action, since the responsibility for identification, release and rehabbilitation of bonded labour rests with the State Governments.

Necessity for collaboration with Pepsi-Co

1110. SHRI T. R. BALU:
SHRI DIPEN GHOSH:
SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) reasons why a foreign collaboration was found necessary for aerated waters, when CFTRI, Mysore and others have the know-how; and

(b) reasons why the growth potential in the softdrink market cannot be filled by new or old Indian softdrinks, without foreign collaboration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) The approval for the project of Punjab Agro-Pepsi-Co was given after considering in details the integrated package proposed for foods and beverages and the benefits it would confer on the Punjab farms and the national economy.

Violations of building byelaws

1111. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item appeared in the 'Patriot' dated 22nd October, 1988 wherein it has been stated that a dangerous trend is being followed by many high rise builders and promoters in the capital these days blatantly violating the unified building bye-laws;

(b) if so, the nature of violations which have come to the notice of Government; and

(c) what steps are being taken to check these violations and action taken against the builders and promoters violating bye-laws?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The report in the 'Patriot' in its issue of 22nd October, 1988 had referred to illegal occupation of three buildings 24, Barakhamba Road, 28 Barakhamba Road and Nehru Place Hotel.

New Delhi Municipal Committee has reported that in respect of 22, Barakhamba Road (and not 24, Barakhamba Road as was reported in the newspaper) and 28, Barakhamba Road, a part of the building had been occupied without obtaining the

prescribed occupancy certificate. Action has been initiated for criminal prosecution of the offenders.

As for the Nehru Place Hotel, the Delhi Development Authority has reported that the hotel continues to be under construction and it is not correct that it has been illegally occupied.

(c) The relevant statutes empower all the Local Bodies of Delhi to launch prosecution against such offences. Action is taken from time to time when offences come to notice. Besides, power or water connections to a building is not given till the prescribed completion/occupation certificate has been issued by the competent authority.

Merger of metallurgical and engineering consultants India with SAIL

1112. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the merger of public sector Metallurgical and Engineering Consultants India (MECON) with Steel Authority of India Ltd. is under consideration of Government;

(b) if so, by when the merger is likely to be made; and

(c) to what extent the Steel plants under SAIL are likely to achieve the targets of production?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI MAKHAN LAL FOTEDAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not, arise.

(c) SAIL plants are planning to achieve the targets of production set for the current year.

Expert group for production and distribution of seeds

1113. SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have set up an expert group to go into the various aspects of seeds production and distribution in the country;

(b) if so, the composition of the group;

(c) by when the expert group is likely to submit its report to Government; and

(d) to what extent the farmers are likely to be benefited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The composition of the Expert Group on Seed is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) The Expert Group on Seed is expected to submit its report by June, 1989.

(d) The Expert Group on Seed is expected to make several recommendations designed to improve seed research production, processing, storage, quality control and marketing. The Expert Group on Seed will also recommend suitable linkages between various agencies involved in the seed industry. As a result it is expected that the farmers will be able to have access to high quality seed as reasonable price.

Statement

Composition of the Expert Group on Seed

1.	Shri K. Ramamurthy 3, Forest Park, Bhubaneswar (Orissa)	Chairman
2	Dr. M. V. Rao Special Director General Inian Council of Agricultural Research, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi	Member